

Detroit VA Healthcare System
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News Release

March 5, 2013

Detroit VA Healthcare System to Hold Grand Opening of New 32,000 sq. ft. Mental Health Outpatient Clinic

New clinic is \$3.6 million project, built to better serve the needs of nearly 330,000 Veterans in Southeast Michigan

(Detroit) The Detroit VA Healthcare System will host visitors, media and others for an introduction and ribbon cutting at its new state-of-the-art Outpatient Mental Health Clinic on **Thursday, March 7, 2013, 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

“One of the largest mental health outpatient clinics in Michigan, the Detroit VA has more than 60 mental health staff and a strong academic training program to support the various needs of our Veterans,” said Dr. Bella Schanzer, Associate Chief of Staff, Mental Health for the medical center. “We are so fortunate to have been provided the funding to build this center to meet the needs of our area Veterans.”

The new clinic was designed with the patient experience in mind, utilizing soft colors, comfortable waiting areas and architecture intended to control sound and promote health and healing. “Every aspect of this new clinic was built with the Veteran and his or her particular needs in mind,” said Dr. Schanzer. “Mental health treatment is so unique and we attempted to make this clinic a place like no other in the medical center.”

All outpatient mental health services are now located in this new 7th floor clinic: general mental health, PTSD, Substance Abuse Disorder, Psychosocial Rehabilitation, to name a few.

The Detroit VA will treat nearly 25,000 unique visitors in the outpatient mental health clinic this year. "This clinic is so crucial for this area," said Dr. Schanzer. "Almost all service members will have reactions after returning from deployment. These behaviors and feelings are normal, especially during the first weeks at home. The key is treatment and timing. We must be able to provide them with specialized services in order to help them successfully readjust with few problems."

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Since 1939, the Detroit VA Medical Center has been improving the health of the men and women who have so proudly served our nation. In 1996, the medical center moved from Allen Park, Michigan to the current location in Detroit. The John D. Dingell VAMC located in Detroit, Michigan is one of the newest VA facilities in the country. We consider it our privilege to serve the health care needs of our Veterans. Services are available to more than 330,000 Veterans living in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, and St. Clair counties. This population represents approximately forty-four percent of the Veteran population in the lower peninsula of Michigan. For more information, visit <http://www.detroit.va.gov>.